

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/709,717
Docket No.: 13004-US-PA

REMARKS

Election/Restrictions

Claims 6-17 have been cancelled.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1, 3-5 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Silverbrook (US Pat. 6,274,056).

The Applicant has carefully considered the remarks set forth in the Office Action.

Claim 1 has been amended to provide more descriptions for clarification purposes, according to the present application. Supporting grounds for this amendment can be found in original Figs. 3A and 3B of the present application.

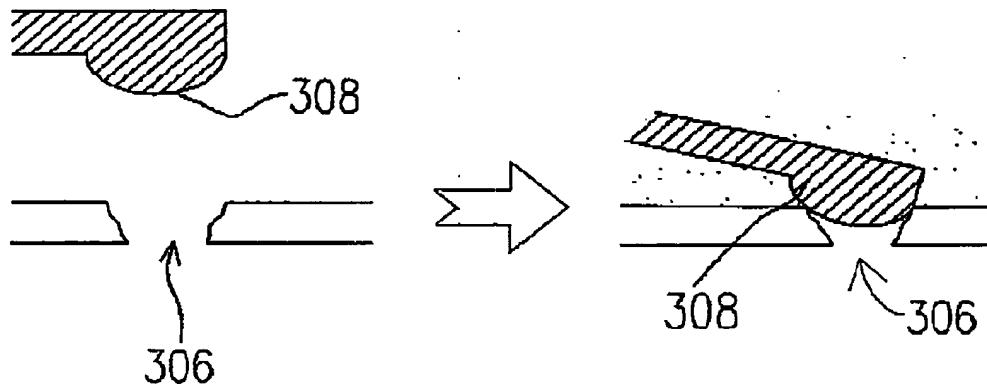
Independent claim 1 recites the features as follows:

A fluid ejection device ... comprising:

...
a stopper, disposed on an end of the cantilever portion and protruded from the cantilever portion of the beam and aligned to the orifice of the substrate, wherein at least a portion of the stoppers fits into the orifice when the cantilever portion of the beam is pulled down.

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Applicant submits Silverbrook failed to teach, suggest, or disclose a stopper in claim 1 of the present application. The stiffener 9 (of FIG. 1) in US Pat. 6,274,056 is planar (refer to col. 7, lines 2-5), and thus it is probable to occur ink loss because of poor closeness between the stiffener and the nozzle 4 (of FIG. 1). By contrast, when a voltage is applied to the activation pad, the cantilever portion 310 of the beam 302 is pulled down and the stopper (308) on an end of the cantilever portion in the present application may fit into the orifice 306 as shown in the following figure.



Therefore, the phenomenon of ink loss can be prevented according to the present application. As a result, the present application can deliver much better printing image quality. Therefore, Applicants submit that the claimed feature of "a stopper disposed on an end of the cantilever portion and protruded from the cantilever portion of the beam and aligned to the orifice of the substrate, wherein at least a portion of the stoppers fits into the orifice when the cantilever portion of the beam is pulled down" is neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by Silverbrook, or any of the other cited references, taken alone, or in combination. Since each and every limitation of the application, as set forth in claim

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1 has not been taught, disclosed or suggested as is by Silverbrook, or any of the other cited references, claim 1, and its dependent claims 3-5 are submitted to be novel and unobvious over Silverbrook, or any of the cited references, taken alone or in combination, and thus should be allowed.

Claim 18 has been amended to provide more descriptions for clarification purposes, according to the present application. Supporting grounds for this amendment can be found in original Figs. 3A and 3B of the present application.

Independent claim 18 recites the features as follows:

A method of operating a fluid ejection device... comprising:

...
...resulting in the stopper sticking to the orifice for ejecting the fluid out of the orifice and at least a portion of the stopper fitting into the orifice; and

...
As the above, Applicants submit that the claimed feature of "at least a portion of the stopper fitting into the orifice" in Claim 18 is neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by Silverbrook, or any of the other cited references, taken alone, or in combination. Therefore, claims 18-19 include all subject matters contained in allowable independent claim 1, and thus should also be allowable.

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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1, 3-5 and 18-19 are in proper condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,

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